

Claims

5 1. A composition for application to the hair or skin wherein said composition comprises a conditioning polymer encapsulated in a lipid vesicle.

10 2. A composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polyvinylpyrrolidone.

15 3. A composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polyoxyethylene ether.

20 4. A composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polymer of hyaluronic acid.

25 5. A composition of claim 1, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

30 6. A composition of claim 2, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

25 7. A composition of claim 3, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

30 8. A composition of claim 4, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

9. A composition of claim 5, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

- (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
- 5 (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
- (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and
- (d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

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10. A composition of claim 6, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

- (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
- 15 (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
- (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and
- (d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

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11. A composition of claim 7, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

- (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
- 25 (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
- (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and
- (d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

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12. A composition of claim 8, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

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- (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
 - (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
 - (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and
 - (d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

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13. A composition of claim 1, wherein said composition further comprises a detergent.

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14. A method of conditioning, strengthening, or moisturizing the hair, said method comprising topically applying a composition comprises a conditioning polymer encapsulated in a lipid vesicle.

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15. A method of claim 14, wherein said polymer is a polyvinylpyrrolidone.

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16. A method of claim 14, wherein said polymer is a polyoxyethylene ether.

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17. A method of claim 14, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

18. A method of claim 15, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

19. A method of claim 16, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

5 20. A method of claim 17, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

- 10 (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
- (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
- (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and
- (d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

15 21. A method of claim 18, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

- 20 (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
- (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
- (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and
- (d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

25 22. A method of claim 19, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

- 30 (a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxylated amine, or a mixture thereof;
- (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;
- (c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

23. A method of claim 14, wherein said composition further comprises a detergent.